

DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING (DOL)

DRIVER TRAINING SCHOOLS (DTS)

Regular meeting of the Driver Training Schools Advisory Committee: September 11, 2008; Olympia, WA.

Present: Robert Lindsay, Swerve Driver Training; Jeff Papen, 911 Driving School; Angie Ward, Washington Traffic Safety Commission; Dan Payne, Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction; Tana Cochran, DTS Program Manager.

Others: Mark Mangold, DTS Lead Auditor; Alexi Olson, DTS Administrative Assistant; Kirsten Games, DTS Administrative Assistant; John Clabaugh, DTS Auditor; Ted Larsen, DTS Auditor; Fred Wright, Swerve Driver Training; Joe Giammona, Swerve Driver Training; Dave Slip, Alexis Driving School; Steve Kulin, A Driving School; Frank Rexus, Alexis Driving School; Dennis Johnson, Alexis Driving School; Sam Wong, Hong Kong Driving School; Mike Cassidy, Advantage Driving School; David Sedelmeier, Apex Driving School; Duane Wakefield, Wake's Driving School; Bill Kellogg, A-Team Driving School; Nikki Bisconer, Driving 101; Margo Peterson, Margo's Safety 1 Driving School; Attending via conference call: Scott Callahan, Central Washington University; Chris Roche, Big John's Driving School.

1. The meeting was called to order at 9:10; introductions were conducted.

9:20 a.m. The committee reviewed the July 10, 2008 minutes; Robert Lindsay moved to approve the minutes; Jeff Papen seconded; motion passed.

2. Program Updates

Mark Mangold shared revised forms to be utilized for the Driver Training Schools including the Student Course Completion Report, the Vehicle Inspection Report and the Instructor Change of Status form.

Action required: Finalization and posting of the revised forms on the DOL website.

In response to the Governor's mandate to reduce travel expenses, the auditors will be assigned to specific regions: Ted and Joann will work north of I-90; John and Lonna will work south.

Action required: Mark will coordinate the audit schedules to be as efficient as possible.

3. Legislative Update

House Bill 3069 regarding Driver Improvement was addressed. Representative Wallace is sponsoring the bill. Discussion ensued regarding the Graduated Driver License, minimum driving age and factors such as issuing permits, parent involvement and fatality rates.

Action required: Tana requested that feedback on this issue as it pertains to RCW 46.82 be submitted to the program email box by September 27. Also requested were statistics on injury and fatality rates for drivers age 16-25.

4. Class Size

David Sedelmeier requested a review of class sizes for small and large schools

Action required: DTS will provide average class size information to Mr. Sedelmeier.

5. Advisory Committee/Conference/Workshop

Tana expressed interest in revising the Advisory Committee representative requirements to include representatives from both Eastern Washington, Western Washington and possibly a parent representative.

Action required: Tana will discuss a proposed change with the Legislative Affairs office. Recruitment announcements will be mailed out in late September along with notices for the November 1 WTSEA/DOL conference in Tacoma and the November 15 PDSA/DOL conference in Ellensburg.

6. Integration

Tana shared the responses the program had received in regard to the August 13 letter mailed to all school owners regarding the integration of classroom and behind the wheel instruction. Over 40 responses were received primarily in favor of option one. A compromise was suggested below:

- Drives one through four completed prior to lesson 15
- Drives five and six completed within sixty days of lesson 15 (prior to 26 weeks)

Action required: The Advisory Committee will continue review of this issue based on feedback received. Tana will check with Legislative Affairs regarding revisions.

7. RCW 46.82 Work Session

Attendance for the afternoon work session: Angie Ward, Dan Payne, Tana Cochran, Mark Mangold, Robert Lindsay, Jeff Papen, Joe Giammona, Fred Wright, Kirsten Games, David Sedelmeier.

Action required: The RCW with strike changes will be distributed at the next Advisory Committee meeting for review. Mark will check on 46.82.310 regarding a surety bond as well as the possible implementation of late fees in lieu of the existing lapsed/relicensing process.

8. Adjournment at 2:00 p.m.